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# PRAIRIE GEM RANCH SEEDS

## 1958 Crop

U. S. National Arboretum  
by Claude A. Barr

SMITHWICK, SOUTH DAKOTA

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### SEEDS OF NATIVE PLAINS

especially of the High Plains, Badlands and  
Black Hills

A select list containing many new and choice items, the "wildflowers" of relatively dry and mainly grassland regions. In their native haunts these plants choose well drained soils and situations. Similar placing will assure their success in the garden. Cultural details may be noted in our plant catalog.

All seeds require steady moisture for germination. Certain Penstemons and others are aided by months of freezing but most Great Plains seeds may be germinated freely indoors, or outdoors in spring, with adequate moisture.

A few items in short supply are catalogued. Will you please list a few alternatives or specify no substitutes.

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United States National Arboretum  
Washington 25,  
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U. S. National Arboretum

- Hardy Perennials, packet 25c except as noted:**
- Achillaea lanulosa*, Dwarf Yarrow. Umbels of white at 8". Ferny foliage.
- Agastache anethiodora* Anise Hyssop. Tall fragrant herb, purple-blue spikes, June on.
- Allium cernuum*, Nodding Onion. Pearly pink umbels, July, 8-16". Easy, delightful.
- Allium nuttalli*, Sand Onion. Sweet smelling reddish blossoms, 4-8". Spring.
- Allium ostroskianum* A foreigner with fine umbels of pink, 5".
- Allium recurvatum superbum*, Pagosa Onion, 18" July, showy pink. Leaves straplike.
- Allium sphaerocephalum* A foreign species with round heads of purple-maroon, August.
- Anemone patens nutt.* American Pasque. Broad 6-pointed lavender stars, March, April. 3-6".
- Antennaria aprica*, Pussy-toes. Inch high silver gray mat plant. Common form, gray toes.
- A. aprica*. Staminate form with tiny white rayed flowers. Very rare. 35c.
- Antennaria obovata* Like a larger aprica, stems to 10".
- Aquilegia brevistyla* Dwarf Columbine. Small purple and cream blossoms.
- Aquilegia latiuscula* Much like *A. canadensis*, red and yellow. To 24".
- Argemone intermedia*, Prickly Poppy. Crinkled 4" poppies of fresh white silk, all summer.
- Arnica fulgens*. Large daisies, richest gold, in patterned elegance, to 14", June.
- Aster conspicuus* Broad handsome corymbs of pink-lavender to 20" or more. New, fine. 35c.
- Aster kumleini* Spectacular purple-blue masses. Inch wide, gold centered. September, 12-15".
- A. kumleini*, in pink. "Worth a million, such clear pink and fairylike form." (Dormon.)
- Aster meritus*. Pinkish violet in dense flat topped masses, blooming lavishly in July. 10".
- Astragalus crassicarpus*, Ground Plum, Buffalo Pea. Pinkish blossoms, bright plumlike fruits.
- Callirhoe involucrata*, Poppy Mallow. Cups of deep wine red, long season. Trailing stems, 24".
- Calochortus gunnisoni*, Mariposa Tulip. Bulb, like a 3-petaled tulip, white, green base, 15", July.
- Calochortus nuttalli*, Sego Lily. Tuliplike, white with gold and maroon markings. June. 12".
- Campanula petiolata*, Western Harebell. Freer growing, more prolific than typical rotundifolia.
- Chrysopsis villosa*, Golden Aster. Scintillating all gold masses, September, grayish 12" plant.
- Crepis occidentalis* Nice showing of deep golden daisies, June. 9-15". Summer dormant.
- Dalea aurea*. Rare silvery green and airy light yellow inflorescence, Prairie Clover style. 14".
- Dalea enneandra*. White and silver in slender swaying racemes, June, August. 20-30".
- Dodecatheon pulchellum* (*pauciflorum*). Shooting Stars, lavender-rose and gold, May. 4-10".
- Echinacea angustifolia*. Bold pink daisies, mahogany centered, 12-16", July. Splendid show.
- Erigeron glabellus*. White to lavender to purple little daisies, 10-14", July, Sept. Evergreen.
- Erigeron montanensis*. New. Little one in white and gold, June and later, 5-7". Quite good.
- Evolvulus nuttallianus*. Quaint lavender morning glories on a 6 to 8" silvery bushlet. 35c.
- Erythronium mesochorium*. Lovely lavender tinted white stars, early spring. Foliage green. 4".
- Gaillardia aristata*. Selection with much red in rays. To 18". Long season.
- Gutierrezia sarothrae*, Golden Dome. Vivid green rounded bushlet, turning to gold, Sept. 12".
- Hedeoma camporum*, Pennyroyal. Little lavender florets in long season. Fine fragrance. 8".

- Iris missouriensis*. Slender, silvery blue, 10-16".  
Late June. Easy, delightful.  
*Iris missouriensis*, Lovely albino with showy gold  
splash in falls. Somewhat dwarf. 50c.  
*Iris flavissima*. A charming free flowering for-  
eigner in bright yellow. 3-5". Early.  
*Lewisia rediviva*, Bitter-root. Glorious carmine  
pink, 2-3" blossoms, at the ground. June.  
*Liatris ligulistylis*, Blazing Star. 1" wide heads  
of fine rose-purple. 12-20", July.  
*Liatris punctata*, Dwarf Gayfeather. Small heads  
closely set in spikes. August, 14". Fine.  
*Liatris pycnostachya*, Tall Gayfeather, long  
spikes of silvery purple, September. 36".  
*Lilium umbellatum*. Large orange-red spotted  
blossoms, 1 to 3, up-facing, June-July. 15".  
*Linum Lewisii*, Wild Blue Flax. Dainty swaying  
stems, to 19", never clumpy or oppressive.  
*Mertensia lanceolata*, Prairie Bluebell. Dwarf pro-  
lific bloomer, early May to late June. 10". 35c.  
*Mirabilis multiflora*, Perennial Four-o'clock. 15".  
30" spread. Magenta-purple, long season.  
*Nemastylis acuta*. Rare blub, like a glorified  
blue-eyed grass, light gentian blue, 1½" wide.  
*Nothocalais cuspidata*. 2" wide flower of shining  
gold, from the ground, 2 to 8". April, May.  
*Oenothera caespitosa*, Gumbo Lily. Large flowered  
white evening primrose. 5". May, August.  
*Oenothera fremonti*. Marvelous, large light prim-  
rose yellow, with silvery foliage. 6". 50c.  
*Oenothera lavandulaefolia*. Brilliant blossoms of  
yellow, spring to fall, 2" wide. 4" plant. 35c.  
*Oenothera oklahomensis*. Dozens of large yellow  
blossoms all summer. Upright bush to 16".  
*Oenothera serrulata*. 1" wide flowers, yellow, in  
profusion all summer. 10" branching bushlet.  
*Oxytropis lamberti*, Purple Loco. Showy purple-  
red spires, to 12", June. Silvery pinnate leaves.  
*Penstemon albertinus*. Small flowered kind, in-  
tense and brilliant blue, 10" spikes, June. 35c.  
*Penst. angustifolius*. Melting deep azure, wide  
closely packed spires, 12", June. Glaucous.  
*Penst. angustifolius*, very beautiful albino. 35c.  
*Penst. crandallii* var. *glabrescens*. Attractive 5"  
bushlet with short spikes of bright blue. 50c.  
*Penst. glaber*. Deep blue, large flowered, July.  
18-24". Often reblooming. Foliage dark.  
*Penst. glaber*, happy new break to pink. 35c.  
*Penst. grandiflorus*. Very large, rich lavender.  
June. 30" or more. Plant glaucous.  
*Penst. grandiflorus*, albino, a treasure among  
white flowers. 20 percent true.  
*Penst. grandiflorus*, in pink. Thrilling beauty.  
*Penst. nitidus*. Brilliant blue, May. Extra select  
dwarf strain, usually 8". Glaucous plant.  
*Penst. unilateralis*. Blue-purple, 24-36". Dark  
foliage, graceful arching stems. July.  
*Penst. virens*. Delightful, easy smaller kind in  
purple-blue. 8-10". Forming wide mats.  
*Penst. Seeba* hybrid of *grandiflorus*, medium pur-  
ple, likely to throw other colors. 26".  
*Phlox alyssifolia*. Large flowered pink, selected  
forms. Creeper, to 4". (few packets.) 50c.  
*Petalostemon oligophyllus*, White Prairie Clover.  
Ringlets of white on short green cones.  
*Psoralea esculenta*, Indian Turnip. Novelty in  
mauve-blue aging to buff, pea florets. 10".  
*Ruellia ciliosa*, Wild Petunia. Long season of  
pure lavender, inch and a half blossoms. 10".  
*Schrankia uncinata*. Sensitive Brier. Distinctive  
globular heads of delicious pink fluff. 10".  
*Senecio purshianus*. Every-gray 2" foliage tufts,  
airy panicles of golden daisies, June. 8".  
*Senecio riddelli*. Fine masses of light yellow for  
September. 20" or more.

*Sideranthus spinulosus*. Low spreading bushlet, 4" tall, golden aster blossoms, September.  
*Sisyrinchium angustifolium*, Blue-eyed Grass. Long season of six pointed stars. 8-10".  
*Solidago pallida*, Plume Goldenrod. Light gold, fragrant, lovely, non-spreading. 16". Sept.  
*Sophora sericea*. Pea family plant of chiefly botanical interest. Creamy pea flowers. 10".  
*Townsendia exscapa*, Easter Daisy. Astonishing wide pink daisies on a 2" tuft of leaves.  
*Townsendia hookeri* (long known as *T. sericea*). Smaller, earlier than *exscapa*, typically white.  
*Townsendia hookeri*, rare, beautiful pink. 50c.  
*Verbena bipinnatifida*. Continuous show, bright lilac-blue, May, October. By June from seed.  
*Viola adunca*. A willing little fellow in deep blue. 4". Part shade.  
*Viola jooi*. Free flowering foreigner in pink-violet. Large flowers, glossy leaves.  
*Viola montanensis*. Very free flowering rarity in light violet. Charming mound habit. 50c.  
*Viola nuttalli*. Brilliant yellow violet of the sun-drenched prairies. Long season. For poor soil.  
*Viola rugulosa*. White with purple lines, often a tinge of pink. Colony forming by stolons. 10".  
*Zinnia grandiflora*. Brilliant golden, wide rayed blossoms all summer. 6". Remarkable show.

#### Good Biennials, packet 25c

*Corydalis sempervirens*. One-sided bleeding hearts in pink, purple tipped. Nice foliage.  
*Machaeranthera ramosa*. Inch wide asters in brilliant purple-blue for September mass effects.  
*Nuttallia decapetala*, Evening Star. 10-pointed 4" creamy stars, to 24". Seldom perennial.  
*Ratibida columnifera*, Prairie Cone Flower. Large rayed yellow selection. Very showy. June, on.  
*R. columnifera*, var. *pulcherrima*. Rays of pure velvety maroon. Rare fine color. 16-14".  
*R. columnifera*, Mrs. Briley's selection, patch of deep red with yellow border.

#### Hardy Cacti, at 25c the packet

*Coryphantha vivipara*. Ball, to 3" or more, carmine flowers on top, June.  
*Echinocereus fendleri*. Smallish ribbed barrel, to 4", reddish lavender blossoms.  
*Echino. reichenbachi*. Barrel type, to 4 or 5", beautiful spines, large lavender blossoms.  
*Echino. viridiflorus*. Ball to barrel, to 4", glossy yellow blossoms tinged green.  
*Opuntia fragilis*. The midget prickly pear with yellow blossoms 2" wide, June. 3-4" high.  
*O. compressa*. Floriferous Arkansas selection. Yellow blossoms crowded on joint edges.  
*O. phaeacantha*. Very large pads, medium sized yellow flowers. Hardy if shriveled. 8-10."  
*O. polyacantha*. Very spiny pads, yellow blossoms, average types and colors.  
*Sclerocactus whipplei*. Cylinder to 7-8". Circle of purplish blossoms on crown.

#### Hardy Shrub Seeds, at 25c the packet

*Artemesia tridentata*, Sagebrush. Attractive gray shrub with tiny leaves, 3-tipped.  
*Chrysothamnus graveolens*, Rabbit Brush. To 36". Ablaze with goldenrod-like bloom. September.  
*Chrysothamnus plattensis*, Dwarf Rabbit Brush. Lighter gray, otherwise similar. 10-12".  
*Eurotia lanata*. Winter-fat. Sagey look, densely branched, white seed tufts in fall. 12-16".  
*Sambucus microbotrys*, Red Berried Elder. Elongated flower and fruit clusters. 4 to 6 feet.